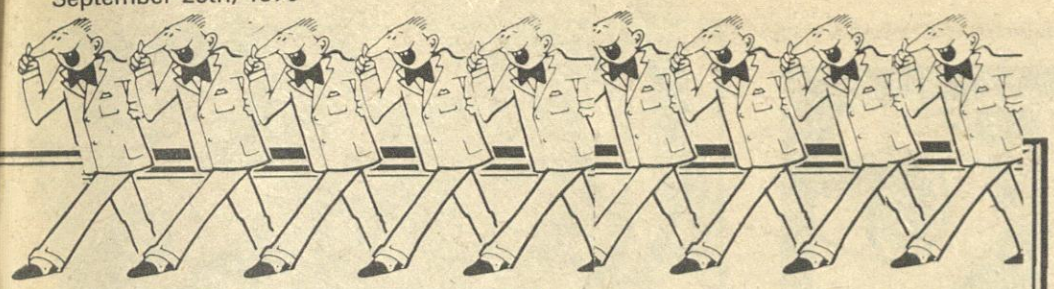


"We have ways of dealing with people like you."
Pic: STEVE EMBERTON

REG IS OUT OF THE CLOSET

SO ELTON JOHN has confessed to being bisexual. Well, that's no big deal, but on the other hand it's never been that much of a closely guarded secret. Most definitely not the kind of *Shock-Horror-Probe-Pop-Star-Reveals-All* lead story that the tabloids seek as their life blood.

"The only reason I haven't spoken about it before," revealed Elton in a frank interview with a New York magazine, "is that nobody asked me." Truthfully, most journalists who interview E. J. aren't interested in that particular line of questioning. Indeed, before their tete-a-tetes I'm certain that most of them knew the state of play and Elton knew that they knew. "It's not important," Elton quite rightly continued, "nor is it a big thing in my life."

When somsone rises to Elton John status there comes a time when it's almost *de rigeur* to turf the skeletons out of the closet and come clean, rather than be subjected to snide rumours, printed innuendos and a hatchet-job expose in Hollywood scandal sheets.

"I don't see why it should affect the fan worship I've got," insisted Elton, "It hasn't hurt David Bowie and I don't see why it should hurt me."

The Chairman of Watford Football Club adamantly denied that he had anything other than a professional working relationship with his lyricist Bernie Taupin; opined that "I don't think there's anything wrong with going to bed with someone of your own sex," and argued, "it's not just me — I think *everyone* is bisexual," but he also pointed out, "I think I'd rather fall in love with a woman eventually. I think a woman lasts longer than a man!"

However, The Chairman was somewhat perturbed as to how the Watford footballers would react to his disclosures: "I think", he said, "all this is going to be terrible with my football team. These guys are so hetero."

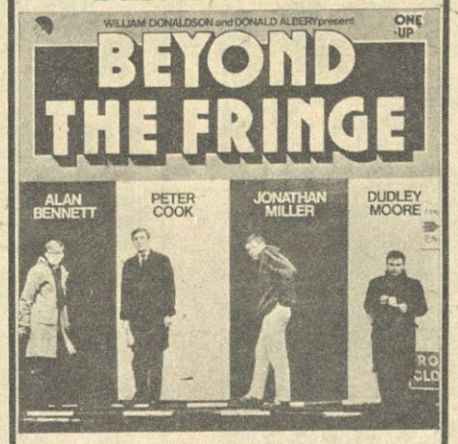
In reply, Watford secretary Ron Rollitt stated, "I didn't know he was bisexual, and I don't think the boys in the team knew either."

When the news was broken to Elton's estranged father Stanley Dwight, he moaned: "I'm shattered. I can't believe he is bisexual," then concluded. "He's always been a great joker".

And you thought bi-sexuals were last year's thing.

□ ROY CARR

BACK ON THE CATALOGUE
THE ORIGINAL
DEREK & CLIVE



OUM 2151 (Mono)
(ONE-UP)

***THE INTRIGUING** advert above was taken from the latest edition of Music Talk, EMI Records Weekly News Magazine, which is distributed internally in the organisation and to all record dealers. Obviously, it is a magazine directed towards selling EMI product. Note how in this advert the company are endeavouring to gain extra commercial mileage out of this re-issue album (first released in the early '60s) by associating it with a contemporary best selling release of two of the performers, Peter Cook and Dudley Moore — viz. the "Derek And Clive Live" album, on Island Records.*

Acceptable business practice? Sensible, even? Yes, were it not for the fact that EMI, who distribute Island Records in the UK, have just been making a sanctimonious noise about not touching the "Derek And Clive" album with a bargepole. They have refused to distribute it.

A case of high octane hypocrisy, or merely high octane untogetherness? According ot Sue Baker, the EMI Press Officer delegated the task of sorting out the mess, it's the latter. "Unfortunately in a company this size you sometimes get a situation where two different divisions don't know what the other is doing. The people who edit Music Talk weren't aware that EMI had refused to distribute the 'Derek And Clive' album.

"I can assure you", young Sue concluded, "that that advert isn't going to appear in any other publication."

Except NME, of course.

BARCLAY JAMES HARVEST

Octoberon Tour

OCTOBER
7th SHEFFIELD City Hall
8th BIRMINGHAM Odeon
9th MANCHESTER Free Trade Hall
10th NEWCASTLE City Hall
11th EDINBURGH Usher Hall
12th Glasgow Apollo
13th LEEDS Town Hall
14th LIVERPOOL Empire
18th OXFORD New Theatre
19th LONDON Hammersmith Odeon
21st PORTSMOUTH Guildhall
22nd CAMBRIDGE Corn Exchange
23rd SOUTHEND Kursaal
24th CROYDON Fairfield Hall
25th CARDIFF Capital Theatre
26th BRISTOL Colston Hall
27th BOURNEMOUTH Winter Garden
28th LEICESTER De Montfort Hall
29th PETERBOROUGH A.B.C.
30th IPSWICH Gaumont
31st NORWICH Theatre Royal
NOVEMBER
2nd HANLEY Victoria Hall
4th MALVERN Winter Garden
5th ASTON University

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